

**AMENDMENT****In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown in the following listing of claims, which will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A process for treating an ophthalmic lens comprising a first side and a second side, wherein the first side comprises a thin external organic or inorganic layer, the process comprising at least one treatment of the second side with an energetic and/or reactive species resulting in surface physical attack and/or chemical modification, wherein prior to the treatment with the energetic and/or reactive species, a deposition of a temporary protective layer is performed onto the thin external organic or inorganic layer of the first side.

27. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein at least one or more depositions of inorganic or organic layers are performed simultaneously with or subsequently to the treatment with the energetic and/or reactive species.

28. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the thin external layer has a thickness lower than 30 nm.

29. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 28, wherein the thin external layer has a thickness of from 1 to 20 nm.

30. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 29, wherein the thin external layer has a thickness of from 1 to 10 nm.

31. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the thin external layer is an organic material layer.

32. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the thin external layer is a hydrophobic and/or oleophobic layer.

33. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the thin external layer is deposited on a multilayer anti-reflecting coating.
34. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the temporary protective layer has a thickness of from 5 to 200 nm.
35. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the temporary protective layer is continuous.
36. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the temporary protective layer is comprised of a metal fluoride, a mixture of metal fluorides, a metal oxide, or a mixture of metal oxides.
37. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 36, wherein the temporary protective layer comprises a metal fluoride further defined as  $\text{MgF}_2$ ,  $\text{LaF}_3$  and  $\text{CeF}_3$ .
38. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 36, wherein the temporary protective layer comprises a metal oxide further defined as  $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  or  $\text{ZrO}_2$ , or a mixture of alumina and praseodymium oxide.
39. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the temporary protective layer is a polytetrafluoroethylene layer.
40. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the first side of the lens is a concave side.
41. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the ophthalmic lens is a pre-calibrated or trimmed lens.
42. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, comprising treatment with an energetic species with energy from 1 to 150 eV.
43. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 42, comprising treatment with an energetic species with energy from 10 to 150 eV.

44. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 43, comprising treatment with an energetic species with energy from 40 to 150 eV.
45. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 26, wherein the treatment comprises an ion bombardment.
46. (Previously Presented) A lens comprising a hydrophobic and/or oleophobic coating imparting to the lens a surface energy of 14 mJ/M<sup>2</sup> or less, wherein a multilayer temporary protective layer is deposited onto the said coating.
47. (Previously Presented) The lens of claim 46, wherein the multilayer temporary protective layer imparts to the lens a surface energy at least equal to 15 mJ/m<sup>2</sup>.
48. (Previously Presented) A pre-calibrated lens at least one of the sides of which comprises a thin external organic or inorganic layer coated with a temporary protective layer.
49. (Previously Presented) The lens of claim 48, wherein the temporary protective layer is a bilayer.
50. (Currently Amended) The lens of claim 49, wherein the temporary protective bilayer comprises a first layer of an ~~organic~~ inorganic nature and a second layer of an ~~inorganic~~ organic nature on the first layer.
51. (Previously Presented) The lens of claim 50, wherein the first layer of an inorganic nature has a thickness of from 2 to 200 nm.
52. (Previously Presented) The lens of claim 51, wherein the first layer of an inorganic nature has a thickness of from 5 to 200 nm.
53. (Previously Presented) The lens of claim 50, wherein the layer of an organic nature has a thickness from 0.2 to 10 microns.
54. (Previously Presented) The lens of claim 50, wherein the layer of an inorganic material comprises a metal fluoride or a mixture of metal fluorides or a metal oxide or a mixture of metal oxides.

55. (Previously Presented) The lens of claim 54, wherein the layer comprises a metal fluoride further defined as  $\text{MgF}_2$ ,  $\text{LaF}_3$ , or  $\text{CeF}_3$  or a metal oxide further defined as a titanium, aluminum, zirconium, or praseodymium oxide.

56. (Previously Presented) The lens of claim 50, wherein the layer of an organic nature is comprised of an acrylic, methacrylic, or polyurethane latex.